

Message from the Supervisor of Elections

Season's Greetings! Heading into this holiday season, I want to personally thank each of you for the exemplary work ethic you displayed during this election year. I am proud to report that this has been another successful election cycle made possible by the commitment, hard work, and dedication from you, staff, at every level in this department.



Lester Sola
Supervisor of Elections

Due to your efforts, this past November's election was a success. We saw the benefits of the additional training from the Poll Worker Certification Program. You clearly demonstrated your commitment to ensuring that voter's rights in Miami-Dade County are protected.

As you are aware, next year will be a very active election year including important races such as the Presidential Preference Primary (PPP) which will be held on January 29, 2008. This election will be historic, due to the fact that it will be the last countywide election conducted with the iVotronic touch screen voting equipment. The passage of recent legislation mandating all elections in the State of Florida to be conducted using paper-based voting equipment, requires Miami-Dade County to undertake a complete equipment conversion.

This new equipment, referred to as "optical scan technology," must be utilized as of July 1, 2008. Therefore, when the voters go to the polls for the August 26, 2008 Primary Election, they will encounter a brand new system which will require them to vote on a paper ballot by bubbling in a circle next to their selection and feeding it into an optical scan reader. This system captures their vote electronically and provides for the availability of a paper ballot for review during audits and in the case of a recount. Miami-Dade County is excited about conducting elections with this new equipment and we want to assure the voters that you, our poll workers, will be well trained and ready to assist. After the January 29, 2008 Election, the Elections Department will be contacting you about the upcoming trainings and education seminars on the new voting equipment.

Thank you for your commitment to excellence and congratulations on a job well done. May you and your family enjoy a wonderful holiday season filled with joy and happiness.

Lester Sola
Supervisor of Elections

Poll Worker Certification Program

The Training Section of the Miami-Dade Elections Department is responsible for teaching the Poll Worker Certification and training the people who train you. We teach a detailed certification class here in the Elections department in Doral. This certification is valid for two years and is a benchmark for measuring the level of responsibility you will be given on Election Day.

The program offers a comprehensive hands-on experience of what you face in a real election. Instructions are given on the basics of the election process such as the do's and don'ts of Election Day and what roles different people play.

In addition you will be reenacting all of the tasks that are required to set up a precinct for an election. This starts with the Monday night pre-election day set-up, then Tuesday morning opening, Election Day procedures, and Tuesday night closing. In total, you are given six modular exercises. You are then given a written test to assess how well you have retained the information you were given.

You will be paid \$55.62 for attending the Poll Worker Certification Program and \$40.00 for attending the state mandated training before each election. You must stay for the entire training class to be compensated.

Once you become certified, you are only required to attend the mandatory trainings that precede each election. In addition to these mandatory trainings it is suggested that you take the on-line refresher courses that are available to all poll workers.

Congratulations to those who scored 100% on all modules and the Poll Worker Certification Exam from August 3, 2007 through November 27, 2007:

NAME	PCT	NAME	PCT
Caesar Phillips	3	Eileen Strul	557
Susie Pounds	14	Ily Goyanes	567
Joavon Lloyd	18	Paul Eisenhart	581
Riva Saker	19	David Landowne	606
Dave Patlak	40	Sandra Manso	701
Louis Marie Montfort	42	Ruthie Feliciano	737
Arline Smith	123	Ricardo Lizarzaburu	765
Gwendolyn Mc Millan	207	Elsa Hernandez	767
Linda Armstrong	242	Violene De Guerre	817
Christine Tarasiuk	314	James Dixon	847
Javier Gonzalez	323	Glendora Clayton	916
Shawn Mahoney	332	Fredrick Lane	920
Tommie Hardy	335	Cynthia Sera	921
Yamile Cobas	414	Jan Burlison	927
Evelyn Donaldson	523	Santiago Garcia Jr.	927
Cheryl Crawford	532	Lisa Michell Riley	937
Audrey Hicks	544		

Election Training Presidential Preference Primary

Once again it is time for training refresher classes that will be held in 10 sites through out Miami-Dade County. This training is state mandated and all poll workers must attend before every election. The class lasts from 3-4 hours depending on the position you hold on Election Day. Remember to bring something to write with and a sweater or jacket in case your site is cold. The trainings will be held for approximately six weeks at all sites. There are some changes to elections laws that you need to know as well as the usual reminders of the things you need to do on Election Day. This is your opportunity to ask questions, practice on the Ivotronic (touchscreen) voting machine's and review the all important paperwork.

Below are the ten sites where training will be held; however, you must be scheduled to attend class. The Elections Department has been contacting poll workers for the January 29, 2008 Presidential Preference Primary. If you have not been contacted, you can expect to be notified in the coming weeks.

1. Recreation & Community Services Dept. City of Hialeah (5601 E. 8 Ave.)
2. Frankie Shannon Rolle Neighborhood Center (3750 S. Dixie Hwy.)
3. Martin Luther King Office Plaza (2525 NW 62 St.)
4. Miami Elks Lodge (10301 Sunset Dr.)
5. Greater New Bethel (17025 NW 22 Ave.)
6. St. Basil Church (1475 NE 199 St.)
7. South Dade Government Center (10710 SW 211 St.)
8. Miami Beach Convention Center (1901 Convention Center Dr.)
9. Eglise Baptiste H. Emmanuel (7321 NE 2 Ave.)
10. Elections Department (2700 NW 87 Ave.)

Legislative Changes

In May 2007, the Florida Legislature passed major revisions to the state election law in which was signed into law by Gov. Crist on May 21, 2007. The revised or added Florida Statute section number, if applicable, is included below with a description of the various changes. Please refer to the bill itself for complete information.

The following provisions of the bill took effect on July 1, 2007:

- Moves Presidential Preference Primary to January 29, 2008 (last Tuesday in January) (§ 103.101).
- Permits municipalities to move their election dates by ordinance, to coincide with the new presidential preference primary date (§101.75).
- Provides that an absentee ballot request is effective for all elections through the next two general elections after the request is made, rather than just for the elections in the calendar year in which the request was made (§101.62).
- Provides an extra day for delivery of an absentee ballot to a voter's designee, from 4 days before an election to 5 days (§101.62).

The following provisions of the bill take effect on January 1, 2008:

- Provides that qualified minors may pre-register to vote when they reach their 17th birthday or receive a valid Florida driver's license, whichever occurs first (§97.041).
- Allows a voter who votes a provisional ballot to present evidence necessary to validate his or her identification number on the voter registration application within two days after the election instead of 3 days (§97.053, 101.048)
- Disallows employee badges or IDs and buyer's club IDs from being used as identification at the polling place (§101.043).

Community Outreach Corner

At the Miami-Dade County Elections Department, we believe that the foundation of true democracy is an informed, actively participating voter. We also believe that Voter Education and Community Outreach Initiatives have the potential to boost voter's confidence thereby making the workload easier for poll workers on Election Day. Although employees are all an integral part of the Election Department's overall vision for voter registration and voter education, this part of the process falls under the Community Outreach and Training Division.

The "Community Outreach Corner" of the Poll Worker Pulse is newly introduced to get you acquainted with the work of the Community Outreach Section. In compliance with federal and state laws and local ordinance, the Community Outreach Section is committed to ensuring that its Comprehensive Voter Education and Community Outreach Initiatives are accessible to all communities in Miami-Dade

County. We strive to register qualified citizens, educate the community, collect requests for absentee ballots, recruit and train registered voters to serve our community as poll workers on Election Day.

We carry out this important mission by gathering and disseminating relevant information about the electoral process, heightening civic awareness, forging partnerships with our diverse community, and reaching out to similar organizations with the objective of strengthening public confidence in the department and in the electoral system, and increasing voter participation.

The Community Outreach Section is also committed to facilitating access to resources in innovative and efficient ways. In addition to presentations and demonstrations, the Elections Department provides organizations with voter education materials for dis-



The Community Outreach Staff from Left to Right: Linda Farquharson, Kaye Johnson, Betty Tumani, Phares Poliard, Dorothy Torrence, and Betty Washington.

tribution to their members. The venues that we target the most for our Comprehensive Voter Education and Community Outreach Initiatives are: Businesses, Faith Based Organizations, Schools/Universities/Colleges, Civic Organizations, Elderly Services, Special Events, Health Fairs and Community Forums.

If you are aware of an organization that may be interested in having the Community Outreach Section do an on-site voter registration drive, a presentation or demonstration, please contact us at 305-499-8370 or e-mail us at electionsoutreach@miamidadegov.

Meet Our Pollworker Schedulers

By now, you have probably spoken to the Poll Worker Schedulers on numerous occasions. You know first hand how quick and efficient they are when dealing with inquiries involving your training schedules, your precinct assignment, or handling your poll worker checks.

Most of the interaction between poll workers and the Elections Department are recorded at the Poll Worker Scheduler Section: Following are some highlights of their various responsibilities:

- Screen new poll worker applications and create accounts for newly recruited poll workers in the Poll Worker Database.
- Schedule training classes for both Poll Worker Certification and poll worker training mandated by the Florida Statutes.
- Send letters and other reminder notices to confirm training assignments and poll worker attendance.
- Review and update the poll worker database periodically (change of address, names and telephones).
- Answer poll worker inquiries on Election Day.
- Prepare the payroll to ensure timely delivery of poll worker checks.
- Always available to all poll workers to answer any questions or concerns.
- Assign poll workers to work at a precinct after attending mandatory training.
- Ensure that all Clerks receive their board list and special instructions in a timely manner so they are able to contact their board before the election.
- Try their best to accommodate poll workers' needs when assigning them to work a precinct or attend a training class.

Please help us keep the poll worker database up to date by reporting any changes to the Poll Worker Scheduler Section at 305-499-8448.



Left to right: (first row) Angelica Martinez, Mae Anderson, Dorothy Mincey, (second row) Natalia Sarmiento, Marly Czaykowski, Martha Smith, Jean Horn, Jennifer Acosta, Frances Wilson, Nila Grilli and Gloria Moises

The Community Outreach and Training Division Welcomes its New Management Team!

In addition to ground-breaking changes made to our poll worker recruitment efforts, innovations to our training practices, and new incentives designed to reward outstanding performance, we are excited and pleased to have a new Deputy Supervisor of Elections for the Community Outreach and Training Division. Let's welcome Mr. Gary Hartfield to the Elections Department.

Gary is a long-time county employee with fourteen years of progressive public administration supervisory and managerial experience with emphasis on budget, finance and procurement activities. Gary possesses a wealth of knowledge of Election Guidelines, Federal, State and local funding programs to include Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnership (HOME), Supportive Housing Program (SHP), SURTAX, USHUD Housing Regulations, and other related Federal and State programs; event planning and business development planning, coordination and implementation.

Gary's experience combined with his leadership ability will enhance the department's vision for community outreach, voter education and poll worker recruitment and training.

Gary is assisted by Barry Garner who is also a new member of the Elections Department family. Barry will serve as Assistant Deputy Supervisor of Elections for the Training and Outreach Division. Barry is a respected and long-time professional in the



Deputy Supervisor of Elections Gary Hartfield (right) with his Assistant Deputy Supervisor, Barry Garner (left) and his Administrative Secretary, Ima Molina (center).

Elections field and brings with him a wealth of knowledge and experience.

He has been involved with many successful elections in the state of North Carolina. He worked seven years for the State Board of Elections in Raleigh and spent five years with the Durham County Board of Elections. Lastly, prior to accepting the position with the Miami-Dade County Elections Department, Barry served as Director of the Orange County Board of Elections in North Carolina.

Barry will be a priceless asset to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department.

Last but not least, Ima Molina recently joined the Community Outreach and Training Division of the Elections Department as Gary's secretary. Mrs. Molina brought with her over 20 years of administrative experience. She typifies what professionalism is all about. Let's welcome Mrs. Ima Molina to the Elections family.

Upcoming Elections

01/22/2008	Florida City General Election (Registration Closing - Dec. 24)
01/29/2008	Presidential Preference Primary (Registration Closing - Dec. 31)
02/05/2008	Florida City Run-Off Election (Registration Closing - Jan. 26)
02/12/2008	South Miami General Election (Registration Closing - Jan. 14)
02/12/2008	Special Primary Election (SH 103) (Registration Closing - Jan. 14)
02/15/2008	Indian Creek Village General Election (Registration Closing - Jan. 17)
03/11/2008	Cutler Bay General Election (Registration Closing - Feb. 11)
03/11/2008	South Miami Run-Off Election (Registration Closing - Feb. 11)
03/18/2008	Surfside General Election (Registration Closing - Feb. 18)

2008 Countywide Elections

1/29/2008	Presidential Preference Primary (Registration Closing - Dec. 31)
8/26/2008	Miami-Dade County Primary Election (Registration Closing - July 28)
11/4/2008	Miami-Dade County General Election (Registration Closing - Oct. 6)

Quotes of the Day from Fellow Poll Workers!

During training we asked poll workers the following question:

What is your interest in being a Poll Worker?



I wanted to give something back and help my community while at the same time earning some extra money.
—Carlos Saldanas



I decided to become a poll worker to serve my community of Homestead; where I have lived for 40 years. I

would like to make a positive difference in the voting experience.
—JoAnn Weatherford



After I was approached by an elections worker at Wal-Mart I gave it some thought; and I decided this was probably something I needed to do. This was something that needed to

be done for my community.
—Randolph Stokley



My number 1 interest is dealing with the public, and helping out my community. The classes are excellent it keeps us up on what is happening. I started as a Deputy and then an inspector now I would like to move up to be a Clerk.
—Kim Blair

FYI Miami-Dade Elections

Registration Statistics as of 10/31/07

Democrat	451,820	42%
Republican	359,743	34%
Other	259,787	24%
TOTAL	1,071,350	

CONTACT INFORMATION

Miami-Dade Elections Department

www.miamidade.gov/elections

305-499-VOTE (8683)

TTY: 305-499-8480

Carlos Alvarez

Mayor



Board of County Commissioners

Bruno A. Barreiro, Chairman

Barbara J. Jordan, Vice Chairman

Barbara J. Jordan

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Joe A. Martínez

District 11

José "Pepe" Díaz

District 12

Natacha Seijas

District 13

Harvey Ruvin

Clerk of Courts

George M. Burgess

County Manager

Robert A. Cuevas, Jr.

County Attorney

Miami-Dade County provides equal access and equal opportunity in employment and services and does not discriminate on the basis of disability.

"It is the policy of Miami-Dade County to comply with all of the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act."

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